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PCT/EP00/01314

Patent Claims

1 1. A magnetic drive for a switch, in particular for an electric switch (1)
2 having an armature (26) which is linearly displaceable between two end
3 positions of a space (21), with at least one movable switch contact, having a
4 shunt body (27) made of a magnetizable material and arranged at a distance
5 from the armature (26) essentially on the axis of displacement of the armature
6 (26), and having means (24, 25, 29, 31) for generating a magnetic field which
7 exerts a retaining force on the armature (26) holding it in the end positions (28,
8 29), where the course of the flux lines of the magnetic field is altered by
9 bringing the shunt body (27) together with the armature (26) so that the
10 retaining force acting on the armature (26) is reduced, characterized in that a
11 lock means for the shunt body (27), by which the shunt body (27) can be held
12 in the end position (28) facing the former and can be released from the end
13 position (28) by exerting a low force or power.

1 2. The magnetic drive according to claim 1, characterized in that the
2 shunt body (27) can be locked in the end position (28) by means of mechanical
3 holding devices (37-40, 42-45).

1 3. The magnetic drive according to claim 2, characterized in that the
2 mechanical holding devices are provided in the form of a mechanical lock (37-
3 40, 42-45) by means of which the shunt body (27) can be held in the end

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4 position (28), and a spring force (41) acts on the shunt body (27) in the
5 direction of the armature (26) after the lock has been opened.

1 4. The magnetic drive according to claim 2, characterized in that a
2 mechanical threshold is provided as the mechanical holding device by means of
3 which the shunt body (27) can be retained in the end position (28) and can be
4 brought together with the armature (26) with a slight force or power.

1 5. The magnetic drive according to claim 1, characterized in that the
2 shunt body (27) can be locked in the end position (28) by means of the
3 magnetic holding means.

1 6. The magnetic drive according to claim 2, characterized in that the
2 mechanical lock (37-40, 42-45) of the shunt body (27) has a guide rod (37)
3 which is connected to the shunt body (27) and which is pivotably connected to
4 a lever arm (38) which works together with a touch device.

1 7. The magnetic drive according to one or more of claims 1 through 6,
2 characterized in that the electric switch (1) is closed in the end position of the
3 armature (26) facing away from the shunt body (27), and it is open in the end
4 position of the armature (26) facing the shunt body (27).